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This application is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP99/09646, filed December 6, 1999, in the European Patent Office; additionally, Applicants claim the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) - (d) based on patent application No. 98124373.6, filed December 22, 1998, in the European Patent Office; further, Applicants claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) based on prior-filed, copending provisional application No. 60/116,237, filed January 15, 1999, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; the contents of all of which are relied upon and incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention--

Page 1, line 4, add section subheading Description of the Related Art-- prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "Processes for vulcanizing diene elastomers"

Page 4, line 28, add section heading SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION-- prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The Applicant has now found"

Page 20, line 14, add section heading BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS-- prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The present invention will now be further"

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